

Matchbook Learning Schools (Indianapolis, IN)

Matchbook Learning Schools is a K-8 school that is part of the Indiana Charter Schools System located in Marion County, Indianapolis. In order to accommodate the overflow of students and staff and simultaneously expand their programming to include grades 9-12, Matchbook Learning is repurposing two abandoned, former manufacturing buildings into STEM school buildings to create a Career Technical Education (CTE) school for children from 12 to 18 years of age. The buildings will house the Matchbook Industrial Arts Building and the Matchbook Career Technical School. The buildings have plans to be used as a disaster relief center, a community cooling and heating shelter, a shared substation for the police department as well as educational buildings for this community. Matchbook Learning Centers has partnered with Ameresco to refurbish the existing buildings and they will serve as a living laboratory where students will learn in-demand trades, including operations and maintenance of building equipment. The rehabilitation of both buildings will address deferred maintenance of mechanical, electrical, plumbing and lighting systems. The rehabilitation measures will include HVAC upgrades with building automation systems, heat pump water heating, lighting upgrades, new roof with increased insulation, exterior wall insulation, and roof-mounted solar PV with battery storage to improve energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality and occupant comfort.

Community Benefits

Ninety percent of Matchbook students are eligible for free and reduced-price lunch, and 20% of students are homeless or from foster homes. Matchbook Learning's Career Technical School prepares students for careers with long-term economic stability. The school serves the greater community as well, offering pro-bono legal services once a month, providing free English as a second language classes (95% of the population have limited English proficiencies), and collaborating on offering adult apprenticeship programs.

Matchbook Learning Schools are committed to using union subcontractors (including local apprentices), hiring women and underrepresented groups to complete planned upgrades, and paying at or above the prevailing wage.

Team Members	
• Ameresco, Inc.	
Total Funds Requested	\$ 5,031,676
Proposed Cost Share (%)	\$ 279,538 (5%)
Number of Buildings	2

